

# SANTA BARBARA LAWN BOWLS CLUB

## ON THE JACK

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AUGUST, 2015



Greetings SBLBC members,

With President Tony and First Lady Betty out of the country, I'm seizing this spot for August. I hope the Cunninghams won't decide to relocate to Canada as I'm finding it hard to fill their shoes. I assure you, there will be no coup.

Our summer of tropical delight is in full swing with motley showings of friendly bowlers on weekdays and weekends. Twilight attendance has nearly rivaled morning and midday bowling. Thanks to Scott Coons, we have a healthy green that's getting a lot of use. We have also gained international recognition within the Special Olympics as their Santa Barbara go-to place for bocce ball practice [The teams from Honduras and St. Kitts graced our bocce courts just before moving on to completion in Los Angeles.]

Lawn bowler recruitment efforts have borne fruit; Increasing numbers of enthusiastic new members are honing their skills, and measures are underway to further increase our numbers via an ongoing publicity and free training campaign orchestrated by Sharron and Eileen. If getting new players wasn't enough, several side-tracked members have returned to the game in spite of personal adversity. Additionally, I recently heard from recuperating bowlers who are on their way back to the green. Furthermore, sharing games is becoming commonplace and certainly helps keep bowlers bowling.

As we turn the corner into the proverbial dog days of August, I can only ask that you all stay hydrated, drive safely or find a safe driver to ride with, and avoid further solar mutation as Our Mister Sun is not your friend. Most importantly, pray that Tony Cunningham never leaves the club in my hands again.

Best wishes... Your Vice Vice-President

*Dano*

*A note from the editor: I have no idea why Dano's email came out with a yellow background but it looks pretty so "Oh well". Eileen*

**TOURNAMENT NEWS:** Our club **Championship Triples Tournament** will be played on the weekend of August 22 and 23. It would be great to see a big turnout for this one so get a team together and sign up. There will soon be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board along with details of the tournament format. Until Tony gets back, I don't know who the director will be as he is recruiting different members to run the tournaments. So – Heads Up – find a team and be ready!

On September 5, also a Saturday, there is the **Judy Patrizzi Three Bowl Pairs** to be played at MacKenzie Park. This is the second year of this tournament played on Labor Day weekend. All the clubs in the area are invited to participate so there should be a good turnout usually including some teams from the greater LA area. If you are interested in playing, please give your entry fee to Stan Bloom. The flyer is on our bulletin board and it gives details of the tournament. This also includes a barbecue after the games.

The **Spencer Adams Triples**, which is a blind draw club tournament, is scheduled for September 19. This is just like any club game except that you keep the team you drew and play another game together. Details will be on the bulletin board so don't forget to check it out from time to time so you don't miss any important events.

**BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** Recently we gained three new members so our membership is now up to 109.

**Visitations:** Mary reported that Oxnard will be visiting us on Thursday and they are bringing 10 or 11 bowlers. The trip to Holmby Park was cancelled due to lack of interest and also because Oxnard was not able to join us on that date. The visit to Cambria is usually well attended and will be coming up in September. Mary will try to re-schedule the visitation from MacKenzie Park which was cancelled due to rain earlier in the year. It does seem that visitations are not as popular as they once were and it has been suggested that we might just do brown bag lunches instead of elaborate luncheons. Perhaps a simpler format would bring out more bowlers.

**Presidents' Day:** Invitations have gone out to all the past club presidents for Presidents' Day and there will be a fun game with men against women followed by a catered barbecue featuring tri-tip, chicken, salad, beans and more. Club members are asked to bring desserts. If you haven't yet signed up for this, please get your name on the list as we need to know how many the caterer will be feeding.

**Twilight bowling:** Bud announced that the twilight games are going very well and more and more people are joining in with 19 showing up to play last Thursday. Bud also handles outside events and he has two more coming up soon – a party from Crane School and also an engagement party.

**Outreach:** September 12 has been chosen as the date to start our community outreach to try to interest people in our great sport. We will be placing a sandwich board outside the club in hopes that people will come in for free lessons. If so, we need

everyone to greet people and to help them get started. Also, Sharron is working on producing a calendar of events to be used on our website and other places and Bruce will be setting up a club email address for us.

There was some discussion about the old sign which is on our fence by the parking lot. It apparently needs some serious re-hab so Daniel will contact the city to hopefully get some help with this project.

**Vice class:** Sharron noted that some of our new bowlers are being placed in the vice position and therefore a vice class is needed to give them the info they need. Sharron and Eileen will schedule a vice class soon and it is hoped that many people will attend, not only new bowlers but also some in need of a refresher course.

### ***BOCCE NEWS:***

#### **World Games come to the Santa Barbara Lawn Bowls Club**

The Special Olympics World Games were held in Los Angeles this past week. Although none of our local athletes were competing, Santa Barbara was honored to be named as a “Host City”, offering housing and events for some of the visiting athletes from Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and St. Kitts & Nevis for a few days before the competition began.

On the morning of Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Bocce players from St. Kitts & Nevis and Honduras requested a place to practice and the Santa Barbara Lawn Bowls Club was pleased to oblige. The Bocce Competition in Los Angeles was held indoors, in the Los Angeles Convention Center, and played on a surface not unlike our artificial green. So this was the perfect place for them to practice and get used to the green speed. The Honduran team had no problems adapting to the faster surface, their team plays in a different division and between the four of them won 18 Gold Medals and 14 Silver. But the team from St. Kitts & Nevis, who were used to playing on a surface of crushed oyster shells, needed all the practice they could get.

And it seemed to pay off. The results of the singles completion were 2 Gold Medals (Constance and Berenice), and Silver Medal for Rojem, and a worthy 6<sup>th</sup> place finish for Letisha. The results for the pairs competition were 1 Gold (Constance and Letisha) and a Silver (Rojem and Berenice). The team of all four athletes won a Silver Medal. All in all, a very favorable showing for the St. Kitts & Nevis team, and the SBLBC can take joy (and a little bit of credit) in their accomplishments.



***The Honduran team practicing.***



***The team: Letisha Davis, Rojem Felix, Berenice Jimenez and Constance Bagnall.***



***Athletes, Coaches, Bowlers and the Head of The St. Kitts and Nevis Delegation.***

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